

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, December 12, 2007, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Mark Davis (representing Michael Scuse, Secretary of Agriculture)
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Kevin Coyle (representing John Hughes, Secretary of DNREC)
L. Allen Messick, Jr.	Jack Markell, State Treasurer

Absent: Lynn Davenport, Joseph Wick, G. Ray Staats and Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Scott Blaier, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Cathy Mesick, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Ann Visalli (Deputy State Treasurer), Mr. Phil Tuthill, Ms. Maria Ballon (auditor), Ms. Kristen Shaw (auditor), and Ms. Molly Keresztny

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:37 a.m. with prayer

I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 960 farms in preservation districts totaling 147,246 acres, with a total of 484 farms under agricultural easements totaling 85,045 acres at a cost of \$137,072,330. For PDR 13 there are a total of 112 farms comprising 15,925 acres with a value of \$247,272,924 to be considered for purchase of development rights. For PDR 14 there are a total of 35 farms comprising 2,350 acres with a value of \$38,814,052. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 13 farms comprising 1,316 acres.

II. Forestland Preservation Area Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Trivits Forestland Preservation Area, ID#F-K-07-10-093G-012. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Trivits Forestland Preservation Area, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

III. District Final Approval:

1. J.E. Walls, Jr. Trust District, ID#K-07-06-246. After discussion, **Jack Markell moved to accept for final approval the J.E. Walls, Jr. Trust District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

IV. Audit Presentation – Chairman Garey asked the Board to allow the audit presentation to be given at this time. Receiving the consent of the Board, Ms. Christian Shaw and Ms. Maria Ballon presented the audit. It was noted that the audit was unqualified, there were no weaknesses. Mr. Michael McGrath expressed appreciation for the work of the auditors and explained to the Board that the State Auditor's Office made changes to what they had originally asked for in the audit.

Jack Markell asked why our millions of dollars of expenditures were not shown in the audit as presented. Michael McGrath explained that the audit format was changed by the State Auditor's Office and that these amounts should be shown more fully in our 2008 audit. A meeting is planned with the State Auditor's Office in 2008 to discuss the audit format.

Discussion continued about the audit and changes that needed to be done in the 2008 audit format. After discussion **Jack Markell moved to accept the audit as presented, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. District Eligibility:

1. Nesneb District, ID#K-07-11-249. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility the Nesneb District, seconded by Jack Markell. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Trivits Expansion of the Beaver Creek Farms District, ID#K-07-10-093C. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the Trivits Expansion of the Beaver Creek Farms District for eligibility and final approval, seconded by Jack Markell. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Charney Expansion of the Woikoski Farms District ID#K-07-10-092B. After discussion, **Jack Markell moved to accept for eligibility and final approval the Charney Expansion of the Woikoski Farms District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Masten Holdings, Inc. Expansion of the Simpson Farms District, ID#K-07-01-072D. After discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility and final approval the Masten Holdings, Inc. Expansion of the Simpson Farms District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**
4. C & T Mitchell Expansion of the Howard W. Pepper District, ID#K-07-10-104A. After discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility and final approval the C & T Mitchell Expansion of the Howard W. Pepper District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

VII. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – the Secretary was not in attendance and could not waive his right of veto.

VIII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

IX. Minutes - Chairman Garey asked if there were additions or corrections to the November 14, 2007 minutes. Receiving no additions or corrections to the minutes, **William Vanderwende moved the minutes be approved, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

X .Financial Highlights:

Cathy Mesick informed the Foundation Board that we had, as of November 30, 2007, \$12,556.42 in the Foundation's checking account. The Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account had a balance of \$158,561.87. We received \$4,549.71 revenue from rollback taxes and \$720.00 interest income. Expenditures for the month of November totaled \$9,430.17. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Jack Markell. Motion unanimously approved.**

1. Administrative Funds – Appropriated Special Funds - \$500,000.00

Michael McGrath presented the new ASF line showing our \$500,000.00. This is the intermediate step to getting a State budget for the Foundation. Mr. McGrath requested the approval of the Foundation for this budget. After discussion, **Jack Markell moved to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

XI. Executive Session – There was no need for an Executive Session.

XII. Other Business:

Michael Parkowski took the time to explain to the Foundation about the proposed schedule for PDR 13. In his estimate the PDR 13 selections will be made in April/May.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on January 9, 2008 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Vanderwende
Vice Chairman